

IN THE COURT OF APPEALS OF MARYLAND

IN RE: CERTIFICATION OF NEEDS FOR ADDITIONAL
JUDGESHIIPS FOR FISCAL 1986



TO: The President of the Senate
The Speaker of the House of Delegates

FROM: Robert C. Murphy, Chief Judge

DATE: January 18, 1985

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ROBERT C. MURPHY
CHIEF JUDGE
COURT OF APPEALS OF MARYLAND
COURTS OF APPEAL BUILDING
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

January 18, 1985

Hon. Melvin A. Steinberg
President of the Senate
State House
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Hon. Benjamin L. Cardin
Speaker of the House
State House
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: Additional Judgeship Needs

Gentlemen:

In accordance with established procedures, I submit herewith my certification as to additional judgeship needs for Fiscal 1986. After careful study of all the information available to me, I believe that two additional judgeships should be created during the 1985 Session of the General Assembly. This includes one circuit judge each for Montgomery and Prince George's Counties.

I certify the need for these judgeships fully realizing the significant costs, both to the State and the political subdivisions. Nevertheless, I believe it is incumbent upon me, as administrative head of the State's judicial system, to convey to you my belief that these positions are required to maintain the effective operation of our court system.

Before providing the details as to why these positions are needed, please permit me to summarize our annual review process. As in the past, the Administrative Office of the Courts has prepared a statistical analysis of the workload and performance of our circuit courts. By applying a workload measure to case filings projected through Fiscal 1986 and by applying other statistical data, preliminary indications are made as to where additional judgeships may be needed. (A copy of the Analysis, Exhibit A, is attached for your review and consideration.)

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The preliminary analysis is distributed to the eight circuit administrative judges who are encouraged to submit their own views as to the needs for judges (see attached Exhibit B-1 through Exhibit B-8). These views are shared in some cases with county judges, bar associations, and legislators, as well as local governmental officials. Finally, after reviewing the statistical analysis and the responses of the administrative judges, certification is prepared.

As of July 1, 1984, there were 217 judicial positions authorized in Maryland, allocated in the following manner:

Court of Appeals	7 judges
Court of Special Appeals	13 judges
Circuit Courts	107 judges
District Court	90 judges

Each of these court levels undertakes to maximize the use of limited resources in order to keep current with their burgeoning case-loads. Some steps taken by these courts include the temporary recall of retired judges, the assignment of active judges from other areas of the State, as well as other courts and various other administrative efforts aimed at managing caseload, particularly in the preliminary phases of litigation. However, despite such efforts additional judgeships are needed, and in my view, it is better from time to time to provide for these needs on an annual basis, rather than waiting until a major crisis has developed.

After conferring with Chief Judge Richard P. Gilbert of the Court of Special Appeals, I plan not to seek any additional judicial positions in that court in Fiscal 1986. Additional law clerks provided by the General Assembly over the past several years have materially assisted this court along with the passage of legislation last year which limited certain criminal appeals. The latter changed the handling of cases by the court where the defendant entered a guilty plea in the circuit court from appeals as a matter of right to applications for leave to appeal. This has enabled the court to stabilize its workload, particularly in the number of criminal appeals.

With respect to the circuit courts, I am not seeking any additional judicial positions in the First, Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, and Eighth Judicial Circuits. I take this position with full recognition that each of these judicial circuits has done a yeoman job in keeping abreast of the rising tide of litigation. In Fiscal 1986, it is expected that the circuit courts statewide will receive conservatively over 168,000 total filings. This is a significant increase, part of which is due to: the higher number of cases filed with the courts affecting the family -- divorce, child abuse, foster reviews, etc.; the greater influx of civil cases involving specialized litigation such as asbestos claims; and the multitude of misdemeanor cases which are now being filed in the

circuit courts after having requested a jury trial in the District Court.

In the Fifth Circuit, Administrative Judge Raymond G. Thieme, Jr., has requested one additional circuit court judge for Carroll County in Fiscal 1986. While Carroll County has increased in total filings during the past year (3,434 in FY '84 compared to 3,190 in FY '83), a large part of this increase was due to the number of jury trial prayers (673 in FY '84 compared to 372 in FY '83). Within the next fiscal year, I will continue to review the workload demands in Carroll County. If need be, temporary judicial assistance from other courts within the State or circuit will be provided to allay any workload problems that may develop there.

In the Sixth Circuit, Administrative Judge David L. Cahoon has requested an additional judgeship for Montgomery County. Judge Cahoon cites a number of impressive statistics in making this request. Montgomery County ranks: first in the State in attorney/judge ratio (243/1); second in the State in the number of pending cases per judge (1,926); and fifth in the State in population per judge (50,367). While Montgomery County does not indicate a strong statistical need in the formula approach utilized by the Administrative Office of the Courts, total filings have been increasing in Montgomery County dramatically since the filling of the twelfth judgeship in Fiscal 1982. During this period, Montgomery County's circuit court workload has increased 43 percent, representing nearly 5,000 additional filings. Based on the fact that this jurisdiction already experiences a significant volume of pretrial litigation and now shows a dramatic increase in workload, I certify the need for the additional judgeship in Montgomery County in Fiscal 1986.

Within the Seventh Circuit, Administrative Judge Ernest A. Loveless, Jr., has formally requested one additional judge for Charles County and one additional judge for Prince George's County. There is no doubt in reviewing the workload data of the Seventh Judicial Circuit that no other area in Maryland has experienced as much increase in filings as the Seventh Judicial Circuit. Over the past four fiscal years (FY '81 thru '84), this circuit recorded an increase in over 9,000 filings -- 26,469 filings in FY '81 compared to 35,561 filings in FY '84. During this period, two additional circuit court judgeships have been authorized in Prince George's County. Because Prince George's County represents the largest growth area within the circuit and shows a strong statistical need in the Administrative Office of the Courts report, I certify the need for one additional circuit court judge for Prince George's County in Fiscal 1986. With respect to Charles County's needs, this could be provided on an intra-circuit basis by the creation of the new judgeship in Prince George's County or, if need be, from other areas of the State as the caseload so increases.

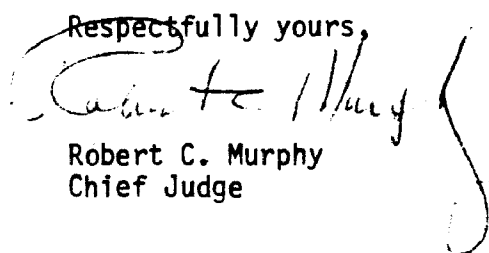
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Administrative Judge Joseph H.H. Kaplan requests no additional judgeships for Baltimore City in Fiscal 1986. However, this position is based on the fact that a District Court judge will continue to be assigned to the circuit court for forty weeks next year and an adequate number of visiting and retired judges will be made available to fill the void in judicial vacancies.

In the District Court, Chief Judge Sweeney advises me that there is no need for any additional judgeships in the District Court in Fiscal 1986. He will continue to make use of the temporary reassignment of active judges and the recall of retired judges wherever needed.

In summary, I believe there is a need for two additional judgeships in Fiscal 1986, one each for the circuit courts in Montgomery and Prince George's Counties. I view this certification as a conservative estimate, based on modest projections. I have attached to this letter a draft bill providing for additional judgeships I have recommended. Should you wish further information, I shall be glad to see that it is supplied, either now or at the hearings concerning this request.

Respectfully yours,



Robert C. Murphy
Chief Judge

RCM:npg
Enc.

cc: Hon. Harry Hughes, Governor
Hon. Richard P. Gilbert, Chief Judge, Court of Special Appeals
Hon. Raymond G. Thieme, Jr., Chairman, Conference of Circuit Judges
Hon. Robert F. Sweeney, Chief Judge, District Court
Circuit Administrative Judges
James H. Norris, Jr., Esq., State Court Administrator
F. Carvel Payne, Esq., Director, Dept. of Legislative Reference
Mr. Charles F. Berry, Budget Analyst
Mr. Steven D. Feinstein, Administrative Analyst
Mr. Peter J. Lally, Associate Administrator

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF THE NEED FOR
ADDITIONAL JUDGESHIPS IN THE CIRCUIT COURTS

Fiscal 1986

Administrative Office of the Courts
Courts of Appeal Building
Post Office Box 431
Annapolis, Maryland 21404
301/269-2141

Report Prepared By:

The Special Projects, Research, and
Planning Services Unit

Peter J. Lally
Faye Gaskin
Norma P. Gainer

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF THE NEED FOR
ADDITIONAL JUDGESHIPS IN THE CIRCUIT COURTS
Fiscal 1986

I. Introduction

On January 4, 1979, Chief Judge Robert C. Murphy began an annual procedure of formally certifying to the General Assembly the need for additional circuit court judges in Maryland. This process, which has become known as the certification process (or judicial allocation plan), was suggested by the Legislative Policy Committee prior to the 1979 session of the legislature. Since its implementation, it has allowed the Judiciary the opportunity to present the need for judgeships based on a review of a comprehensive set of factors including workload and other variables which affect the day-to-day movement of cases through the State's judicial system.

The Chief Judge's Certification Process involves three different steps. The starting point and the subject of this report is a statistical analysis prepared by the Administrative Office of the Courts. Several variables are considered at this stage: actual and projected filings; the number of pending cases per judge; the number of dispositions per judge; the ratio of attorneys to judges; the time required for the filing of the case through disposition (broken down by criminal, law, equity, and juvenile) and the population per judge for each jurisdiction in Maryland. By reviewing these factors and applying caseload projections, preliminary indications can be made as to where additional judges are needed. It is important at this point to emphasize that

these indicators are only preliminary and they are developed to act only as a guide in assisting where additional judicial positions may be needed. The final decision or position of the Judiciary is not made until the end of the third step.

The second phase of certification involves local input. It is at this stage of development, after reviewing the statistical analysis prepared by the Administrative Office of the Courts and assessing local factors, that each circuit administrative judge responds to the need for additional judgeships. This response is given after several groups or individuals have been consulted. For example, the circuit administrative judge will seek the views of the administrative judge from the county where an additional judge may be considered. He will also solicit opinions from all or a select number of members of the bench from that county. He undertakes to gain additional insight from members of the bar, State and local legislators, and other individuals involved with providing local support. In all, based on a thorough review of the local environment and additional factors which may justify the need for increasing judgeships, the circuit administrative judge is asked to address the circuit's need for additional judgeships. In responding, the circuit administrative judge is asked to address the following points:

- A. Is there agreement or disagreement with the statistical analysis prepared by the Administrative Office of the Courts?
- B. If there is disagreement with the analysis for additional judges, what factors (inter- or intra-circuit assignments, use of District Court judges, lack of physical facilities,

lack of fiscal support, use of retired judges, improved administrative procedures, etc.) support this view?

- C. If there is disagreement with the analysis against additional judges, what factors (such as unavailability of inter- or intra-circuit assignment, District Court judges, or retired judges, availability of physical facilities and local fiscal support, complexity of cases, demographic factors, economic factors, etc.) support this view? Are there caseflow management procedures that could be improved to reduce need for more judges?
- D. If there is agreement with the formula recommendations, are there physical facilities and anticipated local financial support for any recommended additional judgeships? Does the local delegation of State legislators support this need? What is the position of the local bar and others who might be called upon to support the request for an additional judgeship?

The final phase of the certification plan occurs when the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals reviews the responses from administrative judges as well as the preliminary statistical analysis. Before making a final decision, he may also choose to discuss the request further with the administrative judge or others whom he feels may have specific knowledge about the request. Final certification is then drafted for the legislative leadership based on a distillation of all the information available to the Chief Judge. This step is normally taken in advance of the legislature convening in January.

II. Methodology for Statistical Analysis

In order to statistically review the need for judgeships, many sets of factors (or variables) can be looked at in order to help gauge where an additional judge may be needed. In Maryland, the first step is to assess the relative need of a jurisdiction by reviewing factors which may influence workload and performance of the courts. The second approach is to look at the specific needs of a jurisdiction by applying a particular formula. If the relative needs analysis and the formula approach both indicate a need for an additional judgeship, then there is a strong likelihood that a solid statistical need exists for a judgeship in that jurisdiction.

Reviewing the time required to terminate cases (performance measures) is one method of showing how the circuit courts are coping with increases in caseload. Table 3 illustrates the average number of days between filing and disposition for all cases terminated over the past four fiscal years (1981, 1982, 1983, and 1984). Generally, law cases top the list in terms of processing time and it appears that the average wait for these cases can be a little over a year (366 days). Equity filings are the next highest in terms of statewide disposition rates averaging 173 days (Fiscal 1984) followed by Criminal, 121 days (Fiscal 1984) and Juvenile filings which averaged 61 days (Fiscal 1984).

Workload measures are compared in Table 5. These include filings per judge, pending cases per judge, dispositions per judge, population per judge, and attorney/judge ratio. (Detailed population figures are found in Table 4.) All factors (or variables) are then ranked in Table 6. A distinction is made between what are termed predictive factors and performance factors. Predictive factors tend to indicate

those elements which may affect the amount of business or workload of the courts in the foreseeable future, while performance factors generally show the ability of the courts to handle their workload. By comparing the two sets of factors collectively (Table 7), one can gain a perspective of the relative needs of the jurisdictions in Maryland in terms of volume and their ability to cope with these demands.

After having reviewed the method for determining relative needs, a more specific analysis of each area of the State is then considered. Projections are developed for Fiscal 1985 and Fiscal 1986 and then applied to a scale to predict numerically the need for judicial positions. The following scale was utilized for Fiscal 1986:

- A. 1,000 case filings in jurisdictions with 1 to 4 judicial officers;
- B. 1,100 case filings in jurisdictions with 5 to 9 judicial officers;
- C. 1,200 case filings in jurisdictions with 10 to 14 judicial officers;
- D. 1,300 case filings in jurisdictions with 15 to 19 judicial officers; and
- E. 1,400 case filings in jurisdictions with 20 or more judicial officers.

The results of the filings standard analysis are shown in Table 8. The first column after the jurisdiction represents the total 1986 projected filings for law, equity, criminal, and juvenile cases. The second column represents existing authorized judgeships. The third column shows the number of available full- and part-time masters, both juvenile and domestic relations and also District Court judges who are cross designated to hear juvenile matters in the circuit court. The fourth column then combines the second and third columns into a total combined number of judicial officers. The fifth column illustrates the

number of total case filings per judicial officer. The sixth column shows the estimate of judge needs by applying the appropriate filing standard to the projected adjusted caseload, and the last column represents preliminary estimate of needed judicial manpower in terms of existing judicial resources and projected need. A surplus is shown by a number in parentheses and a shortage or a need for judges is shown by a number without parentheses.

III. General Trends Within the Circuit Courts

In the circuit courts, 161,038 filings were reported in Fiscal 1984 compared to 151,635 cases filed in Fiscal 1983 (excluding juvenile matters filed in Montgomery County). This represents a difference of nearly 10,000 additional filings or an increase in approximately 6.2 percent in total filings. Increases were reported in all four functional categories: law, +9.7 percent; criminal, +8.4 percent; equity, +6.1 percent; and juvenile, +0.4 percent. (Percentage increases do not include juvenile filings in Montgomery County Juvenile Court. See Table 1.)

Within each of the major categories, motor tort, domestic and paternity cases seemed to have increased the greatest on the civil side while misdemeanor and CINA cases increased the greatest in the criminal and juvenile courts. Of particular interest in the criminal docket is the growing number of District Court cases in which requests have been made for jury trials. In 1981, the General Assembly passed a law aimed at reducing the number of demands made for jury trials in the District Court, Chapter 608, Acts of 1981. As a result, jury trial prayers dropped by one-half after the first year. (See insert.) Then, in

Fiscal 1983, two years after passage of the Gerstung law, jury trial prayers have increased close to the level where they were prior to the enactment of Chapter 608. The impact of this law was further questioned in April of 1984 when the Court of Appeals ruled unconstitutional the denial of a jury trial for a theft offense carrying a penalty of 18 months' imprisonment. (See Kawamura v. State, 299 Md. 276, 473 A.2d 438 (1984).) In Fiscal 1984, jury trial prayers now exceed the 1981 level, thus all but eliminating the effect of this law and bringing back greater workload problems for the circuit courts.

Jury Trial Prayers Pre- and Post-Gerstung Law (Chapter 608)				
	Jury Trial Prayers Pre-Ch.608	Jury Trial Prayers Post-Ch.608	Jury Trial Prayers Post-Ch.608	Jury Trial Prayers Post-Ch.608
	7/1/80- 6/30/81	7/1/81- 6/30/82	7/1/82- 6/30/83	7/1/83- 6/30/84
Baltimore City*	5,925	2,034	3,209	4,128
Anne Arundel County	503	381	392	459
Baltimore County	1,312	1,050	1,424	1,513
Montgomery County	636	489	1,223	1,924
Prince George's County	952	895	1,583	2,755
All Other Counties	<u>2,962</u>	<u>1,399</u>	<u>1,930</u>	<u>2,414</u>
Statewide	12,290	6,248	9,761	13,193

*Based on number of defendants provided by the Criminal Assignment Office of the Circuit Court for Baltimore City.

Since the certification process began in January of 1979, 17 circuit court judgeships and four District Court judgeships have been created. During the 1979 session of the General Assembly, seven circuit court judges were approved -- two in Anne Arundel, one each in Baltimore City, Charles, Montgomery, Prince George's, and Worcester Counties (Chapter 480, Acts of 1979). In 1980, while the circuit judgeship bills

were not enacted (SB 674 and HB 997), one District Court judge was authorized in Howard County (Chapter 266, Acts of 1980). The following year, 1981, the General Assembly approved six circuit court judges under the certification process -- two in Baltimore County, one each in Harford, Howard, Montgomery, and Washington Counties (Chapters 532 and 634 of 1981 Acts). In 1982, one circuit court judge was approved in Prince George's County (Chapter 132 of 1982 Acts). During the 1983 session, one judge was approved in the District Court for Montgomery County (Chapter 141 of 1983 Acts); two circuit court judgeship requests in Frederick County and Baltimore City were not approved.

In 1984, the General Assembly created five new judicial positions: two District Court judgeships, one each in Prince George's County and Baltimore City (Chapter 107 of 1984 Acts); and three additional judgeships in the circuit courts, one each in Baltimore, Frederick, and Prince George's Counties (Chapter 191 of 1984 Acts). This means that over 77 percent of judgeship requests have been approved since the certification program began at the request of the Legislative Policy Committee over six years ago.

IV. Circuit-by-Circuit Analysis

First Circuit

The First Judicial Circuit is comprised of the four southern counties of the Eastern Shore of Maryland--Dorchester, Wicomico, Worcester, and Somerset Counties. Of the four counties, Wicomico represents the largest in terms of caseload filings and overall growth in permanent population. In Fiscal 1984, Wicomico County reported 2,583 filings and it is expected that by Fiscal 1986, 2,799 cases will be

filed. This represents approximately 0.8 of a judge and shows that Wicomico County will be on the verge of needing an additional judge. With respect to the other three jurisdictions within the circuit, it is anticipated that adequate judicial resources will be available to handle the workload as projected through Fiscal 1986. (See Table 8.)

Second Circuit

Caroline, Cecil, Kent, Queen Anne's, and Talbot Counties make up the five-county region of the Second Judicial Circuit. In Fiscal 1984, the circuit reported 5,369 case filings--approximately four percent less than the previous year. With the continued assistance from the District Court judge in Cecil County (who hears juvenile matters), it is expected that the caseload demands will be adequately met within the Second Circuit over the next several years.

Third Circuit

The Third Circuit contains two counties, Baltimore and Harford, which comprise the largest population area surrounding Baltimore City. In the 1980 census, this geographical area represented more than 800,000 of the 2.1 million residing within the metropolitan Baltimore area. Since that time, Baltimore County has received three additional circuit court judgeships (two approved during the 1981 session of the General Assembly and one in the 1984 session), while Harford County was granted approval for one additional judge (its fourth) during the 1981 session. This brings the total judicial strength within the Third Circuit to 17 circuit court judges authorized in Fiscal 1985. As indicated in Table 8, this appears to be a sufficient number of judges to support the judicial workload forecast through Fiscal 1986.

In Fiscal 1984, case filings in Baltimore County were recorded at approximately the same level as that reported in Fiscal 1983. (In Fiscal 1983, there were 18,341 filings compared to 18,352 filings in Fiscal 1984.) This "leveling off" effect comes at a time when significant increases in workload have been experienced over the past three or four fiscal years.

In Harford County, on the other hand, there was a significant increase in caseload filings in Fiscal 1984 (4,579 filings in Fiscal 1984 compared to 3,940 filings in Fiscal 1985), but, as Table 8 indicates, judicial resources within that jurisdiction are sufficient to handle the additional increase.

Fourth Circuit

The three western most counties of Maryland, Allegany, Garrett, and Washington, compose the Fourth Judicial Circuit. In Fiscal 1984, this region reported 5,378 filings. This is approximately four percent greater than Fiscal 1983 (5,130 filings); however, despite this modest increase, there appears to be adequate judicial resources in the Fourth Circuit through Fiscal 1986. (See Table 8.)

Fifth Circuit

As indicated in Statistical Analysis of the Need for Additional Judgeships in the Circuit Courts, Fiscal 1985, the Fifth Judicial Circuit represents the fastest and steadiest population growth area of any judicial circuit within the State. Table 4 indicates that in the decade of the seventies, the Fifth Circuit, Anne Arundel, Carroll, and Howard Counties, reported a total population growth of over 156,000 people. This meant that more than half of the overall growth for the State during this period was in the Fifth Circuit. If future population

estimates are correct, it is expected that this area of the State will continue to grow at an annual rate of 2.82 through the mid-eighties. (See Table 4.)

In terms of projected judgeship needs, the Fifth Circuit shows an overall need of 1.2 judges in Fiscal 1986. Both Anne Arundel and Carroll Counties indicate a need of 1.3 and 1.1 judges, respectively. Most of the caseload increases witnessed within the circuit in Fiscal 1984 were in Anne Arundel County where a record number of filings was reported--16,501 filings. This is a significant jump over the number of filings reported in Fiscal 1983--13,198 filings--and accounts for an approximate 25 percent increase in caseload. If this influx of case filings continues, this may cause serious problems for the bench in keeping its workload current.

With respect to other comparative workload measures, Anne Arundel County ranks second in the number of dispositions per judge (1,696), third in the number of filings per judge (1,833), and fifth in the number of pending cases per judge (1,198). It also ranks second longest in the disposition of juvenile cases (85 days), fourth longest in the disposition of law cases (379 days), and fifth in the disposition of equity matters (175 days).

Carroll County ranks high in the number of filings per judge (fourth--1,717), dispositions per judge (third--1,545), and population per judge (fourth--54,300). Likewise, Carroll County has shown some difficulty in disposition of criminal and juvenile cases (second longest in the State in criminal--160 days--and fourth longest in the State in juvenile--68 days).

In Howard County, while predictive factors (Table 6) are generally consistent with other courts throughout the State, there is some difficulty being encountered in the disposition of law, equity, and juvenile cases. (See performance factors listed in Table 6.)

Sixth Circuit

The Sixth Judicial Circuit is composed of a fifteen judge circuit in Frederick and Montgomery Counties. Montgomery County received approval for its twelfth judge during the 1981 session of the General Assembly (Fiscal 1982), and Frederick County was authorized a third judgeship during the last session of the General Assembly (Fiscal 1985).

Between Fiscal Years 1982 and 1983, Montgomery County recorded a significant growth in overall court filings. In Fiscal 1982, the Circuit Court for Montgomery County reported 11,088 filings. The following year, Fiscal 1983, filings rose to 14,782--thus representing a third increase in the total number of filings. (See Table 2.) In Fiscal 1984, filings continued to climb but not at the same rate as the previous year. The Court reported during that period 15,891 filings, which is approximately 7.5 percent increase over the amount reported in Fiscal 1983. In part, some of this rise may be attributable to the greater number of requests for jury trials in cases originating from the District Court. These requests almost doubled in Fiscal 1984.

	<u>FY 81</u>	<u>FY 82</u>	<u>FY 83</u>	<u>FY 84</u>
Motor Vehicle Jury Trial Prayers	357	248	812	1,475
Criminal Jury Trial Prayers	<u>279</u>	<u>241</u>	<u>411</u>	<u>449</u>
	636	489	1,223	1,924

In terms of other comparative workload factors, Montgomery County ranks first in the State in attorney/judge ratio (243:1), second in the number of pending cases per judge (1,926), third longest in the disposition of law cases (381 days), and fourth longest in the disposition of equity matters (177 days). Frederick County ranks fifth longest in the disposition of juvenile cases (65 days).

Seventh Circuit

Calvert, Charles, Prince George's, and St. Mary's Counties make up the counties within the Seventh Judicial Circuit. Prince George's County is the largest jurisdiction within the region, having a total of 20 judicial officers (15 authorized circuit court judges and five juvenile and equity masters). In Fiscal 1984, Prince George's County reported 29,653 total filings. This is 3,102 additional filings over the total workload experienced in Fiscal 1983 or about 11.6 percent increase. Table 2 indicates the steady rise in case filings since Fiscal 1978. Like other jurisdictions, the county has also realized a significant increase in the number of jury trial requests over the past three fiscal years.

	<u>FY 81</u>	<u>FY 82</u>	<u>FY 83</u>	<u>FY 84</u>
Motor Vehicle Jury Trial Prayers	178	242	669	1,438
Criminal Jury Trial Prayers	<u>774</u>	<u>653</u>	<u>914</u>	<u>1,317</u>
	952	895	1,583	2,755

Charles County is the other jurisdiction within the Seventh Circuit which has shown a steady increase in growth, both in terms of

population and caseload. By 1985, it is estimated that the county will be populated by nearly twice as many individuals as reported in the 1970 Census (47,678--population in 1970 compared to 87,200--population projected in 1980). (See Table 4.) In Fiscal 1986, it is estimated that the county will record 3,560 court filings, meaning that over one full-time additional judge would be needed if caseload trends continue. Charles County received its second judgeship in 1979 and Prince George's County was authorized the fifteenth judgeship during the 1984 session of the legislature.

In terms of other workload measures, Prince George's County is the highest in the State in the number of filings per judge (2,118) and the number of dispositions per judge (2,195). It also recorded the second longest "lapse time" for the disposition of law (431 days) and equity cases (218 days). Charles County is the highest in the State in population per judge (65,400).

Eighth Judicial Circuit

The Circuit Court for Baltimore City (formerly the Supreme Bench of Baltimore City) comprises the Eighth Judicial Circuit in Maryland. It consists of 23 circuit court judges and nine full-time juvenile and equity masters to handle a workload of over 40,000 case filings each year. One District Court judge is assigned to the Circuit Court on a rotational basis during the major portion of the year.

Four years ago (Fiscal 1981), the court was inundated with jury trial prayers from the District Court. From July 1, 1980 through June 30, 1981, the Criminal Assignment Office of Baltimore City reported 5,925 motor vehicle and criminal prayers for jury trials from the District Court. The following year the number of these requests

decreased dramatically to 2,034. In Fiscal 1983, these requests increased to 3,209 and last fiscal year (FY '84) the number of jury trial prayers increased to 4,128. It is now expected that the court will annually receive close to the same number of requests it did in 1981, prior to the enactment of Chapter 608. If this pattern continues, it will place an additional burden upon the Circuit Court for Baltimore City.

With respect to other workload indicators, Baltimore City ranks first in the number of pending cases per judge (3,047), second in the attorney/judge ratio (174:1), and second in the number of filings per judge (1,879). Disposition time appears to be consistent with, and in some areas better than, other metropolitan courts within the State. (See Tables 3 and 6.)

TABLE 1
STATEWIDE CIRCUIT COURT FILINGS BY CASE TYPE
FISCAL YEARS 1975 THROUGH 1984

Case Type	FY 75 Filings (% of Change)	FY 76 Filings (% of Change)	FY 77 Filings (% of Change)	FY 78 Filings (% of Change)	FY 79 Filings (% of Change)	FY 80 Filings (% of Change)	FY 81 ^b Filings ^b (% of Change)	FY 82 ^b Filings ^b (% of Change)	FY 83 Filings (% of Change)	FY 84 Filings (% of Change)
Law	18,930 (+ 8.14%)	18,724 (- 1.08%)	19,372 (+ 3.46%)	21,089 (+ 8.86%)	21,454 (+ 1.73%)	25,319 (+18.01%)	21,608 (-14.65%)	21,852 (+ 1.13%)	22,915 (+ 4.85%)	25,138 (+ 9.70%)
Criminal	29,606 (+20.33%)	33,744 (+13.97%)	43,171 (+27.93%)	35,729 (-17.23%)	38,516 (+ 7.80%)	39,007 (+ 1.27%)	46,061 (+18.08%)	30,575 (-33.62%) ^c	33,862 (+10.75%)	36,738 (+ 8.49%)
Juvenile ^a	23,471 (+ 4.59%)	25,296 (+ 7.77%)	23,825 (- 5.81%)	22,472 (- 5.67%)	23,487 (+ 4.51%)	24,117 (+ 2.68%)	22,961 (- 4.79%)	26,481 (+15.33%)	26,518 (+ 0.13%)	26,626 (+ 0.40%)
Equity	38,400 (+ 5.46%)	43,434 (+13.10%)	46,654 (+ 7.41%)	53,631 (+14.95%)	59,610 (+11.14%)	60,976 (+ 2.29%)	53,728 (-11.88%)	59,781 (+11.27%)	68,340 (+ 8.73%)	72,536 (+ 6.13%)
Total	110,407 (+ 9.35%)	121,198 (+ 9.77%)	133,022 (+ 9.75%)	132,921 (- 0.07%)	143,067 (+ 7.63%)	149,419 (+ 4.43%)	144,358 (- 3.38%)	138,689 (- 3.93%)	151,635 (+ 6.92%)	161,038 (+ 6.20%)

^aExcludes juvenile causes in Montgomery County District Court.

^bDuring Fiscal 1981 and Fiscal 1982, reopened cases were counted when a hearing was held. In all other fiscal years, reopened cases are recorded at the time of the filing of the petition.

^cBeginning in Fiscal 1982, Baltimore City changed its criminal counting procedures from individual charges to cases which are defined as charges arising out of a single incident.

TABLE 2
PROJECTIONS OF CIRCUIT COURT FILINGS FOR
EACH JURISDICTION IN MARYLAND THROUGH 1986

Circuit/ Jurisdiction	Actual					Projected ^c			
	FY 78	FY 79	FY 80	FY 81 ^a	FY 82 ^b	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86
<u>First Circuit</u>	5,589	5,691	6,128	6,005	5,506	6,198	6,398	6,334	6,434
Dorchester	1,362	1,306	1,370	1,156	1,135	1,156	1,305	1,155	1,130
Somerset	554	562	618	550	635	675	800	768	803
Wicomico	2,036	2,251	2,522	2,307	2,348	2,669	2,583	2,717	2,799
Worcester	1,637	1,572	1,618	1,992	1,388	1,698	1,710	1,694	1,702
<u>Second Circuit</u>	4,220	4,249	4,669	4,436	4,957	5,602	5,369	5,707	5,937
Caroline	572	549	618	750	678	750	687	773	802
Cecil	2,030	1,892	2,121	1,975	2,219	2,311	2,356	2,403	2,471
Kent	464	399	457	414	378	430	388	384	375
Queen Anne's	623	656	726	735	886	1,054	991	1,104	1,178
Talbot	531	753	747	562	796	1,057	947	1,043	1,111
<u>Third Circuit</u>	18,020	19,248	19,582	19,642	20,303	22,281	22,931	23,361	24,130
Baltimore	14,723	15,648	16,126	15,857	16,348	18,341	18,352	18,841	19,431
Harford	3,297	3,600	3,456	3,785	3,955	3,940	4,579	4,520	4,699
<u>Fourth Circuit</u>	5,120	5,519	6,052	4,980	4,807	5,130	5,378	5,105	5,060
Allegany	1,873	2,073	2,112	1,650	1,589	1,577	1,544	1,417	1,327
Garrett	645	640	725	706	645	724	701	720	729
Washington	2,602	2,806	3,215	2,624	2,573	2,829	3,133	2,968	3,004
<u>Fifth Circuit</u>	17,553	17,956	18,399	16,690	17,461	19,906	23,727	21,897	22,671
Anne Arundel	12,705	13,123	12,671	10,730	11,592	13,198	16,501	14,426	14,799
Carroll	2,044	2,221	2,612	2,451	2,377	3,190	3,434	3,457	3,667
Howard	2,804	2,612	3,116	3,509	3,492	3,518	3,792	4,014	4,205
<u>Sixth Circuit</u>	11,560	11,572	12,653	13,123	13,589	17,139	18,465	18,698	19,869
Frederick	2,353	2,472	2,688	2,311	2,501	2,357	2,574	2,500	2,509
Montgomery ^d	9,207	9,100	9,965	10,812	11,088	14,782	15,891	16,198	17,360
<u>Seventh Circuit</u>	22,496	23,468	25,419	26,469	30,567	32,485	35,561	36,977	39,205
Calvert	994	1,013	1,352	1,640	1,294	1,156	1,317	1,423	1,466
Charles	1,876	2,212	2,497	2,724	2,694	3,126	3,010	3,367	3,560
Prince George's	18,278	19,054	20,152	20,415	25,100	26,551	29,653	30,467	32,398
St. Mary's	1,348	1,189	1,418	1,690	1,479	1,652	1,581	1,720	1,781
<u>Eighth Circuit</u>	48,363	55,364	56,517	53,013	41,499	42,894	43,209	44,244	45,099
Baltimore City	48,363	55,364	56,517	53,013	41,499 ^b	42,894	43,209	44,244	45,099
Statewide	132,921	143,067	149,419	144,358	138,689	151,635	161,038	162,323	168,405

^aDuring Fiscal 1981 and Fiscal 1982, reopened cases were counted when a hearing was held. In all other fiscal years, reopened cases are recorded at the time of the filing of the petition.

^bBaltimore City changed its criminal counting procedures from individual charges to cases in July 1981. Cases are defined as charges arising out of a single incident.

^cFiscal 1986 projections are based on a linear regression method of forecasting.

^dExcludes juvenile causes heard in Montgomery County.

TABLE 3
FILING TO DISPOSITION OF CASES TERMINATED
IN FISCAL 1984, 1983, 1982, and 1981

	Average in Days - Filing to Disposition							
	All Criminal Cases				Excluding Cases Over 360 Days*			
	'81	'82	'83	'84	'81	'82	'83	'84
<u>First Circuit</u>								
Dorchester	132	122	132	147	129	122	132	147
Somerset	78	191	124	97	75	85	99	90
Wicomico	86	124	92	120	77	88	83	88
Worcester	150	190	166	146	147	169	128	129
<u>Second Circuit</u>								
Caroline	125	127	150	135	112	119	142	128
Cecil	178	168	205	168	168	147	173	143
Kent	130	149	130	161	130	140	121	161
Queen Anne's	155	189	225	186	127	154	149	131
Talbot	116	129	146	131	116	117	118	114
<u>Third Circuit</u>								
Baltimore	118	118	122	130	101	101	102	104
Harford	178	299	223	197	135	176	166	157
<u>Fourth Circuit</u>								
Allegany	113	166	135	154	98	109	98	110
Garrett	174	144	185	158	174	141	172	131
Washington	156	170	211	183	118	117	153	132
<u>Fifth Circuit</u>								
Anne Arundel	149	158	153	159	124	138	137	138
Carroll	213	186	215	224	138	153	161	160
Howard	121	148	124	150	108	134	107	125
<u>Sixth Circuit</u>								
Frederick	150	142	149	131	110	111	118	107
Montgomery	161	176	176	173	123	146	133	134
<u>Seventh Circuit</u>								
Calvert	111	145	146	112	109	107	123	101
Charles	126	145	166	194	107	110	134	83
Prince George's	193	188	171	142	129	151	131	120
St. Mary's	122	145	116	105	115	123	112	105
<u>Eighth Circuit</u>								
Baltimore City	N/A	139	165	148	N/A	128	131	121
Statewide	N/A	155	159	150	N/A	130	127	121

*This column excludes older cases to give the reader an indication of what the average time would be eliminating those cases which perhaps should have been reported as terminated to the State information system. Approximately 90 to 95 percent of the cases are disposed within this time period.

TABLE 3 (contd.)
FILING TO DISPOSITION OF CASES TERMINATED
IN FISCAL 1984, 1983, 1982, and 1981

	Average in Days - Filing to Disposition							
	All Law Cases				Excluding Cases Over 1081 Days*			
	'81	'82	'83	'84	'81	'82	'83	'84
<u>First Circuit</u>								
Dorchester	313	514	421	738	290	395	306	240
Somerset	265	465	554	359	265	276	432	250
Wicomico	298	403	668	401	275	348	413	358
Worcester	194	285	450	429	179	221	367	337
<u>Second Circuit</u>								
Caroline	279	280	416	394	249	247	350	373
Cecil	469	401	561	357	401	328	469	321
Kent	267	264	252	333	267	264	234	227
Queen Anne's	247	300	309	263	247	258	293	233
Talbot	140	397	284	312	140	315	271	272
<u>Third Circuit</u>								
Baltimore	507	512	565	455	418	394	446	379
Harford	402	395	407	355	333	351	364	322
<u>Fourth Circuit</u>								
Allegany	675	645**	862	541	473	491**	557	373
Garrett	427	435	309	361	361	349	296	335
Washington	384	446	438	375	369	387	392	349
<u>Fifth Circuit</u>								
Anne Arundel	413	448	506	461	336	410	338	379
Carroll	481	497	457	324	241	331	374	250
Howard	503	412	491	554	378	355	406	457
<u>Sixth Circuit</u>								
Frederick	332	335	324	260	321	302	307	251
Montgomery	408	414	1006	702	358	363	372	381
<u>Seventh Circuit</u>								
Calvert	310	290	302	280	291	290	245	252
Charles	313	297	304	321	297	290	297	315
Prince George's	406	449	463	491	369	402	411	431
St. Mary's	256	328	286	269	248	297	281	244
<u>Eighth Circuit</u>								
Baltimore City	467	354	410	393	383	314	378	336
Statewide	435	444	565	470	366	361	388	366

*This column excludes older cases to give the reader an indication of what the average time would be eliminating those cases which perhaps should have been reported as terminated to the State information system. Approximately 90 to 95 percent of the cases are disposed within this time period.

**Information for Allegany County was obtained manually. See letter from John A. Davies, Jr., to Peter J. Lally dated October 28, 1982.

TABLE 3 (contd.)
FILING TO DISPOSITION OF CASES TERMINATED
IN FISCAL 1984, 1983, 1982, and 1981

	Average in Days - Filing to Disposition							
	All Equity Cases				Excluding Cases Over 721 Days*			
	'81	'82	'83	'84	'81	'82	'83	'84
<u>First Circuit</u>								
Dorchester	116	140	119	298	99	110	84	98
Somerset	130	146	79	233	85	63	57	100
Wicomico	116	141	147	133	104	125	127	115
Worcester	189	272	190	220	144	176	125	143
<u>Second Circuit</u>								
Caroline	135	234	179	180	102	127	141	161
Cecil	189	199	245	149	122	123	140	127
Kent	301	182	185	138	208	170	142	114
Queen Anne's	184	165	143	154	132	163	124	128
Talbot	118	276	129	116	106	196	100	101
<u>Third Circuit</u>								
Baltimore	265	351	305	254	175	164	194	178
Harford	376	246	239	236	175	168	165	152
<u>Fourth Circuit</u>								
Allegany	306	596	171	192	145	156	119	155
Garrett	251	220	262	212	213	151	176	153
Washington	233	277	195	199	176	175	146	117
<u>Fifth Circuit</u>								
Anne Arundel	297	249	285	336	163	159	172	175
Carroll	433	193	382	242	165	147	152	149
Howard	315	282	427	318	211	201	212	238
<u>Sixth Circuit</u>								
Frederick	206	259	191	203	147	151	144	133
Montgomery	275	274	570	548	208	196	184	177
<u>Seventh Circuit</u>								
Calvert	190	257	282	199	147	178	171	130
Charles	205	192	210	183	147	166	168	159
Prince George's	258	231	315	461	188	177	204	218
St. Mary's	218	230	170	159	179	183	144	147
<u>Eighth Circuit</u>								
Baltimore City	208	249	158	175	153	160	132	162
Statewide	248	259	292	320	166	165	165	172

*This column excludes older cases to give the reader an indication of what the average time would be eliminating those cases which perhaps should have been reported as terminated to the State information system. Approximately 90 to 95 percent of the cases are disposed within this time period.

TABLE 3 (contd.)
FILING TO DISPOSITION OF CASES TERMINATED
IN FISCAL 1984, 1983, 1982, and 1981

	Average in Days - Filing to Disposition							
	All Juvenile Cases				Excluding Cases Over 271 Days*			
	'81	'82	'83	'84	'81	'82	'83	'84
<u>First Circuit</u>								
Dorchester	36	41	33	72	36	41	33	37
Somerset	33	53	60	12	19	20	49	12
Wicomico	30	42	31	33	30	34	29	30
Worcester	66	52	64	71	53	52	52	51
<u>Second Circuit</u>								
Caroline	47	27	63	117	47	27	45	47
Cecil	60	35	52	43	43	35	42	42
Kent	110	47	25	29	91	47	25	29
Queen Anne's	42	56	30	37	38	53	27	37
Talbot	36	80	52	106	36	53	48	42
<u>Third Circuit</u>								
Baltimore	153	162	76	81	60	57	62	61
Harford	59	64	88	62	57	62	67	53
<u>Fourth Circuit</u>								
Allegany	36	26	35	30	20	21	27	27
Garrett	38	55	39	56	36	36	36	31
Washington	34	39	44	45	34	33	37	40
<u>Fifth Circuit</u>								
Anne Arundel	107	105	137	107	84	86	87	85
Carroll	54	68	72	78	52	61	69	68
Howard	65	74	94	145	64	69	75	102
<u>Sixth Circuit</u>								
Frederick	71	68	98	81	65	61	65	65
Montgomery	157	238	129	125	84	84	88	77
<u>Seventh Circuit</u>								
Calvert	102	110	97	107	69	80	73	70
Charles	64	76	99	67	64	72	66	62
Prince George's	66	50	51	61	64	44	46	49
St. Mary's	71	88	76	65	71	70	66	59
<u>Eighth Circuit</u>								
Baltimore City	64	116	72	78	53	52	58	62
Statewide	82	112	79	81	60	56	61	61

*This column excludes older cases to give the reader an indication of what the average time would be eliminating those cases which perhaps should have been reported as terminated to the State information system. Approximately 90 to 95 percent of the cases are disposed within this time period.

TABLE 4

MARYLAND POPULATION CHANGE BETWEEN 1970 AND 1980 CENSUS
AND POPULATION PROJECTIONS THROUGH JULY 1, 1985

Circuit/ Jurisdiction	Actual Population		Actual Annual Rate of Change	Population Projections		Projected Annual Rate of Change ^c
	April 1, 1970	April 1, 1980		July 1, 1980 ^a	July 1, 1985 ^b	
<u>First Circuit</u>	127,007	145,240	1.44	145,700	155,100	1.29
Dorchester	29,405	30,623	0.41	30,650	31,200	0.35
Somerset	18,924	19,188	0.14	19,200	19,400	0.20
Wicomico	54,236	64,540	1.9	64,800	70,000	1.60
Worcester	24,442	30,889	2.64	31,050	34,500	2.22
<u>Second Circuit</u>	131,322	151,380	1.53	151,890	162,100	1.34
Caroline	19,781	23,143	1.7	23,230	25,000	1.52
Cecil	53,291	60,430	1.34	60,610	64,000	1.11
Kent	16,146	16,695	0.34	16,710	17,000	0.34
Queen Anne's	18,422	25,508	3.85	25,690	29,600	3.04
Talbot	23,682	25,604	0.81	25,650	26,500	0.66
<u>Third Circuit</u>	735,787	801,545	0.89	803,190	835,800	0.81
Baltimore	620,409	655,615	0.57	656,500	673,900	0.53
Harford	115,378	145,930	2.65	146,690	161,900	2.07
<u>Fourth Circuit</u>	209,349	221,132	0.56	220,400	226,200	0.52
Allegany	84,044	80,548	-0.42	80,460	78,900	(0.38)
Garrett	21,476	27,498	2.34	26,620	29,200	1.93
Washington	103,829	113,086	0.89	113,320	118,100	0.84
<u>Fifth Circuit</u>	429,442	585,703	3.64	589,610	672,900	2.82
Anne Arundel	298,042	370,775	2.44	372,590	411,000	2.06
Carroll	69,006	96,356	4.0	97,040	111,600	3.00
Howard	62,394	118,572	9.0	119,980	150,300	5.05
<u>Sixth Circuit</u>	607,736	693,845	1.42	695,460	742,200	1.34
Frederick	84,927	114,792	3.52	115,000	131,700	4.84
Montgomery	522,809	579,053	1.08	580,460	610,500	1.03
<u>Seventh Circuit</u>	777,467	832,355	0.71	833,740	862,200	0.68
Calvert	20,682	34,638	6.75	34,990	42,600	4.34
Charles	47,678	72,751	5.26	73,380	87,200	3.76
Prince George's	661,719	665,071	0.05	665,160	665,600	0.01
St. Mary's	47,388	59,895	2.64	60,210	66,800	2.18
<u>Eighth Circuit</u>						
Baltimore City	905,787	786,775	-1.31	783,800	727,200	(1.44)
STATEWIDE	3,923,897	4,217,975	0.75	4,223,790	4,383,700	0.75

SOURCES: Maryland Vital Statistics Annual Report, 1980, and Maryland Population Report July 1, 1980 and Projections to 1985, Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Center for Health Statistics.

^aThe July 1, 1980 population estimate was prepared by the Center for Health Statistics by adding to the 1980 census population (April 1, 1980) 1/40th the change between the 1970 and 1980 censuses for each political subdivision. The subdivisions were then summed to obtain the total state population.

^bChange in population from one year to the next is dependent upon two factors -- natural increase and net migration. Natural increase is the excess of births over deaths. Net migration is the difference between the number of people moving into an area and the number moving out. For further information, see source documents above.

^cBrackets indicate a negative projected annual rate of change.

TABLE 5
COMPARATIVE WORKLOAD MEASURES PER CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE^a
(Fiscal Year 1984)

Jurisdiction (Number of Judges)	(1) Filings Per Judge (Rank)	(2) Pending Cases Per Judge (Rank)	(3) Dispositions Per Judge (Rank)	(4) Population ^b Per Judge (Rank)	(5) Attorney/Judge Ratio ^c
<u>First Circuit</u>					
Dorchester (1)	1,305 (10)	734 (10)	1,204 (9)	31,100 (17)	20 (23)
Somerset (1)	800 (20)	301 (21)	799 (19)	19,400 (22)	11 (24)
Wicomico (2)	1,292 (11)	405 (18)	1,287 (8)	34,500 (14)	51 (10)
Worcester (2)	855 (19)	490 (17)	813 (18)	16,900 (23)	32 (18)
<u>Second Circuit</u>					
Caroline (1)	687 (23)	282 (22)	683 (21)	24,600 (21)	22 (22)
Cecil (2)	1,178 (13)	625 (14)	1,067 (13)	31,650 (16)	29 (20)
Kent (1)	388 (24)	209 (24)	365 (24)	16,900 (24)	38 (14)
Queen Anne's (1)	991 (16)	378 (19)	937 (16)	28,800 (18)	31 (19)
Talbot (1)	947 (18)	371 (20)	963 (15)	26,400 (20)	82 (6)
<u>Third Circuit</u>					
Baltimore (12)	1,529 (6)	1,148 (7)	1,461 (6)	55,867 (3)	149 (3)
Harford (4)	1,145 (14)	1,346 (4)	644 (22)	39,700 (10)	50 (11)
<u>Fourth Circuit</u>					
Allegany (2)	772 (21)	618 (15)	616 (23)	39,600 (11)	36 (15)
Garrett (1)	701 (22)	280 (23)	761 (20)	28,700 (19)	23 (21)
Washington (3)	1,044 (15)	606 (16)	992 (14)	39,033 (12)	33 (17)
<u>Fifth Circuit</u>					
Anne Arundel (9)	1,833 (3)	1,198 (5)	1,696 (2)	44,800 (7)	83 (5)
Carroll (2)	1,717 (4)	1,175 (6)	1,546 (3)	54,300 (4)	67 (9)
Howard (4)	948 (17)	902 (8)	901 (17)	36,025 (13)	124 (4)
<u>Sixth Circuit</u>					
Frederick (2)	1,287 (12)	639 (13)	1,186 (11)	64,150 (2)	74 (8)
Montgomery ^d (12)	1,324 (8)	1,926 (2)	1,186 (10)	50,367 (5)	243 (1)
<u>Seventh Circuit</u>					
Calvert (1)	1,317 (9)	718 (11)	1,134 (12)	41,100 (9)	39 (13)
Charles (2)	1,505 (7)	755 (9)	1,384 (7)	42,200 (8)	35 (16)
Prince George's (14)	2,118 (1)	1,379 (3)	2,195 (1)	47,536 (6)	78 (7)
St. Mary's (1)	1,581 (5)	675 (12)	1,470 (5)	65,400 (1)	47 (12)
<u>Eighth Circuit</u>					
Baltimore City (23)	1,879 (2)	3,047 (1)	1,530 (4)	32,113 (15)	174 (2)
State (104)	1,588	1,560	1,451	41,838	118

^aThe number of judges used in developing the rankings in this chart is based on the number authorized in Fiscal 1984 (104 statewide).

^bPopulation estimate for July 1, 1984, issued by the Maryland Center for Health Statistics.

^cAttorney statistics obtained from the Administrator of the Clients' Security Trust Fund of the Bar of Maryland as of July 1, 1984. Out-of-state attorneys are not included in these ratios.

^dExcludes juvenile cases in Montgomery County District Court.

TABLE 6
COMPARED RANKING OF VARIOUS FACTORS AFFECTING JUDGESHIP ALLOCATION

	Ranking of Predictive Factors				Ranking of Performance Factors (Inverted Ranking Used ^a to Show Longest Times)			
	Filings	Popu- lation	Pending Cases	Attorneys	Time/ Equity	Time/ Criminal	Time/ Law	Time/ Juvenile
<u>First Circuit</u>								
Dorchester	10	17	10	23	98 (24)	147 (4)	240 (22)	37 (18)
Somerset	20	22	21	24	100 (23)	90 (22)	250 (20)	12 (23)
Wicomico	11	14	18	10	115 (20)	88 (23)	358 (8)	30 (20)
Worcester	19	23	17	18	143 (14)	129 (11)	337 (10)	51 (11)
<u>Second Circuit</u>								
Caroline	23	21	22	22	161 (7)	128 (12)	373 (6)	47 (13)
Cecil	13	16	14	20	127 (18)	143 (5)	321 (14)	42 (15)
Kent	24	24	24	14	114 (21)	161 (1)	227 (24)	29 (21)
Queen Anne's	16	18	19	19	128 (17)	131 (10)	233 (23)	37 (17)
Talbot	18	20	20	6	101 (22)	114 (16)	272 (16)	42 (14)
<u>Third Circuit</u>								
Baltimore	6	3	7	3	178 (3)	104 (20)	379 (5)	61 (8)
Harford	14	10	4	11	152 (11)	157 (3)	322 (13)	53 (10)
<u>Fourth Circuit</u>								
Allegany	21	11	15	15	155 (9)	110 (17)	373 (7)	27 (22)
Garrett	22	19	23	21	153 (10)	131 (9)	335 (12)	31 (19)
Washington	15	12	16	17	117 (19)	132 (8)	349 (9)	40 (16)
<u>Fifth Circuit</u>								
Anne Arundel	3	7	5	5	175 (5)	138 (6)	379 (4)	85 (2)
Carroll	4	4	6	9	149 (12)	160 (2)	250 (19)	68 (4)
Howard	17	13	8	4	238 (1)	125 (13)	457 (1)	102 (1)
<u>Sixth Circuit</u>								
Frederick	12	2	13	8	133 (15)	107 (18)	251 (18)	65 (5)
Montgomery	8	5	2	1	177 (4)	134 (7)	381 (3)	N/A
<u>Seventh Circuit</u>								
Calvert	9	9	11	13	130 (16)	101 (21)	252 (17)	70 (3)
Charles	7	8	19	16	159 (8)	83 (24)	315 (15)	62 (6)
Prince George's	1	6	3	7	218 (2)	120 (15)	431 (2)	49 (12)
St. Mary's	5	1	12	12	147 (13)	105 (19)	244 (21)	59 (9)
<u>Eighth Circuit</u>								
Baltimore City	2	15	1	2	162 (6)	121 (14)	336 (11)	62 (7)

^a Lower number indicates greater need for judgeship. (So, for example, a number one ranking of a predictive factor would indicate a higher amount of volume whereas a number one ranking of a performance factor would indicate a slower ability to handle workload.)

TABLE 7

COLLECTIVE RANKING OF JURISDICTIONS
BY BOTH PREDICTIVE AND PERFORMANCE FACTORS**
(FISCAL 1984)

Summary of Predictive Factors by Jurisdiction*		Summary of Performance Factors by Jurisdiction*	
1. Prince George's County	(5.5)	1. Howard County	(4.0)
2. Baltimore City	(6.25)	2. Anne Arundel County	(4.25)
3. Anne Arundel County	(7.75)	3. Montgomery County	(4.67)
4. Montgomery County	(8.5)	4. Prince George's County	(7.75)
5. Carroll County	(9.25)	5. Baltimore County	(9.0)
6. Baltimore County	(9.5)	6. Carroll County	(9.25)
7. St. Mary's County	(13.0)	7. Harford County	(9.25)
8. Charles County	(15.75)	8. Caroline County	(9.5)
9. Calvert County	(17.75)	9. Baltimore City	(9.5)
10. Harford County	(17.75)	10. Worcester County	(11.5)
11. Frederick County	(18.0)	11. Garrett County	(12.5)
12. Howard County	(21.0)	12. Cecil County	(13.0)
13. Dorchester County	(22.5)	13. Washington County	(13.0)
14. Wicomico County	(23.25)	14. Charles County	(13.25)
15. Cecil County	(25.75)	15. Allegany County	(13.75)
16. Washington County	(26.5)	16. Frederick County	(14.0)
17. Allegany County	(29.75)	17. Calvert County	(14.25)
18. Talbot County	(30.0)	18. St. Mary's County	(15.5)
19. Queen Anne's County	(30.75)	19. Kent County	(16.75)
20. Worcester County	(33.0)	20. Queen Anne's County	(16.75)
21. Somerset County	(37.0)	21. Dorchester County	(17.0)
22. Garrett County	(38.0)	22. Talbot County	(17.0)
23. Caroline County	(39.0)	23. Wicomico County	(17.75)
24. Kent County	(39.5)	24. Somerset County	(22.0)

*Collective ranking determined by assigning a weight of three to filings per judge, a weight of one to population per judge, a weight of two to pending cases per judge, and a weight of one to attorney/judge ratio.

*Collective ranking determined by assigning an equal weight (of one) to the filing to disposition times of criminal, law, equity, and juvenile cases. (Inverted ranking to show longest times.)

**Lower number indicates greater need for judgeship so, for example, a number one ranking of a predictive factor would indicate a higher amount of volume whereas a number one ranking of a performance factor would indicate a slower ability to handle workload. If a jurisdiction is listed near the top of both lists, then this shows that a relatively strong need exists for a judge based on the variables considered.

TABLE 8
PROJECTED NUMBER OF JUDGES NEEDED IN CIRCUIT COURTS

	Projected Filings 1986 ^a	No. of Judges	No. of Masters and Judges Cross-designated	Adjusted Number Judicial Officers	Average Projected No. of Filings Per Judicial Officer 1986	Judges by Standard ^c	Addl. Judges Needed
First Circuit							
Dorchester	1,130	1	0	1	1,130	1.1	0.1
Somerset	803	1	0	1	803	0.8	(0.2)
Wicomico	2,799	2	0	2	1,400	2.8	0.8
Worcester	1,702	2	0	2	851	1.7	(0.3)
Circuit Total	6,434	6	0	6	1,072	6.4	0.4
Second Circuit							
Caroline	802	1	0	1	802	0.8	(0.2)
Cecil	2,471	2	0.2	2.2	1,123	2.5	0.3
Kent	375	1	0	1	375	0.4	(0.6)
Queen Anne's	1,178	1	0	1	1,178	1.2	0.2
Talbot	1,111	1	0	1	1,111	1.1	0.1
Circuit Total	5,937	6	0.2	6.2	957	6.0	(0.2)
Third Circuit							
Baltimore	19,431	13	1.5	14.5	1,340	14.9	0.4
Harford	4,724	4	0.6	4.6	1,026	4.3	(0.3)
Circuit Total	24,130	17	2.1	19.1	1,263	19.2	0.1
Fourth Circuit							
Allegany	1,327	2	0	2	664	1.3	(0.7)
Garrett	729	1	0	1	729	0.7	(0.3)
Washington	3,004	3	0	3	1,001	3.0	0.0
Circuit Total	5,060	6	0	6	843	5.0	(1.0)
Fifth Circuit							
Anne Arundel	14,799	9	2.0	11	1,345	12.3	1.3
Carroll	3,667	2	0.6	2.6	1,410	3.7	1.1
Howard	4,205	4	1.0	5	841	3.8	(1.2)
Circuit Total	22,671	15	3.6	18.6	1,218	19.8	1.2
Sixth Circuit							
Frederick	2,509	3	0	3	836	2.5	(0.5)
Montgomery	17,435	12	4	16	1,089	13.4	(2.6)
Circuit Total	19,665	15	4	19	1,035	15.8	(3.2)
Seventh Circuit							
Calvert	1,466	1	0	1	1,466	1.5	0.5
Charles	3,560	2	0	2	1,780	3.6	1.6
Prince George's	32,398	15	5.0	20	1,619	23.1	3.1
St. Mary's	1,781	1	0.2	1.2	1,484	1.8	0.6
Circuit Total	39,205	19	5.2	24.2	1,620	30.0	5.8
Eighth Circuit							
Baltimore City	45,099	23	9.7 ^d	32.7	1,379	32.2	(0.5)

^aBoth Harford and Montgomery Counties have no Orphans' Court and disposition of these matters is handled directly by the Circuit Court judges. Approximately 25 hearings were added to Harford County's projection and 75 hearings to Montgomery County's projection for Fiscal 1986.

^bJuvenile masters in some jurisdictions here only considered a percentage of a judicial officer because of the number of filings handled yearly by these individuals. Also, in Cecil and Wicomico Counties, District Court judges are cross-designated to hear juvenile matters in the circuit court. This amounts to about one day a week or 0.2 of a judge. (Note: In Wicomico County, when the District Court judge sits in juvenile court, the circuit court judge sits in the District Court. Therefore, no adjustments in the total number of judicial officers are needed.)

^cThe scale utilized for this column in Fiscal 1986 is as follows: 1000 filings - 1 to 4 judicial officers; 1100 filings - 5 to 9 judicial officers; 1200 filings - 10 to 14 judicial officers; 1300 filings - 15 to 19 judicial officers; 1400 filings - 20 or more judicial officers.

^dJudgeship count for Baltimore City includes one District Court judge who is assigned to the Circuit Court of Baltimore City on an annual basis for about 3-1/2 months. This amounts to about .7 of additional judicial assistance yearly.



The Circuit Court for Wicomico County

FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF MARYLAND

SALISBURY, MARYLAND 21801

TELEPHONE (301) 742-3533

RICHARD M. POLLITT

CHIEF JUDGE

P. O. BOX 808

October 30, 1984

The Honorable Robert C. Murphy
Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals
of Maryland
Courts of Appeals Building
361 Rowe Boulevard
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Chief:

I have reviewed the Statistical Needs Analysis for new Circuit Court Judges for fiscal 1986. While I am in general agreement that no new judges should be requested for the First Judicial Circuit at this time, I do question the projections which anticipate a decline in case filings in Dorchester and Worcester Counties. I believe Dorchester County is rapidly approaching a caseload exceeding that which can be properly handled by a single judge, and, as noted in the analysis, Wicomico County will soon require a third judge. While it is too soon to make any accurate predictions, we anticipate a significant increase in cases in Somerset County upon the completion of the new prison there.

I completely agree with the comments on page seven of the analysis concerning the increase in jury trial prayers from the District Court since the Court of Appeals decision in Kawamura v. State, thus adding to the overall caseload of the Circuit Courts and added difficulty in the timely scheduling of criminal trials. If this trend continues, we all shall be needing additional judges.

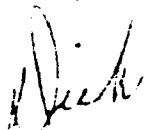
My report of last December noted that Wicomico County was expected to start construction of a new jail and courts building this year. I regret to say we seem to be no further along on that project than we were at that time. Until such time as that is completed, we have no facilities to accommodate an additional judge.

The Honorable Robert C. Murphy
RE: Statistical Needs Analysis
October 30, 1984
Page Two

Through the use of extensive intra-circuit assignments and with the excellent cooperation of the judges of the District Court, with whom we are all cross-designated, we have been able to prevent any significant increase in our back-log. This is demonstrated by our relatively good standings in performance factors as compared with predictive factors. Accordingly, we are not requesting a new judge for fiscal 1986. In the absence of any unforeseen developments, we will be requesting authorization for a third judge in Wicomico County in fiscal 1987, to be funded when our building is completed. We would expect that new judge to be a "circuit rider" as needed.

With best personal regards,

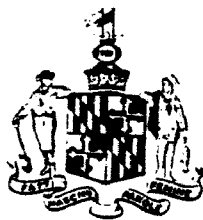
Sincerely,



Richard M. Pollitt

RMP:mfh

cc: James H. Norris, Jr., Esquire



The Second Judicial Circuit of Maryland

CIRCUIT COURT FOR KENT COUNTY

GEORGE B. RASIN, JR.
CHIEF JUDGE
CIRCUIT ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE

COURT HOUSE
CHESTERTOWN, MARYLAND 21620
301-778-4600/2488

November 2, 1984

James H. Norris, Jr., Esquire
State Court Administrator
Administrative Office of the Courts
Courts of Appeal Building
361 Rowe Boulevard
Post Office Box 431
Annapolis
Maryland
21404

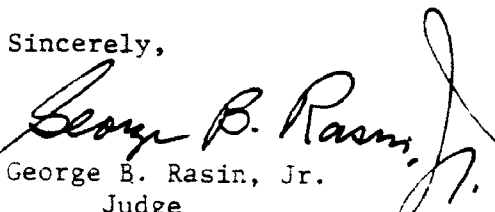
Dear Jim:

Reference is made to your memorandum of October 25, 1984, requesting a response to the needs for new judgeships in the Second Judicial Circuit.

As the Administrative Office and Chief Judge Murphy have been advised in previous years, the Second Judicial Circuit is not in need of additional judges at this time. As has been suggested in the past, at some point Cecil County's needs will have to be addressed. The other four counties of the Circuit provide some assistance to Cecil County. However, it must be kept in mind that Easton is approximately seventy miles from Elkton and Denton is just slightly closer. Therefore, it is not realistic to expect judges from the lower portion of the Circuit to give too much coverage to Cecil County.

With kindest personal regards,

Sincerely,


George B. Rasin, Jr.
Judge

GBR./pab

cc: The Honorable Robert C. Murphy, Chief Judge
Court of Appeals of Maryland



The Circuit Court for Baltimore County

THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF MARYLAND

FRANK E. CICONE
ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE

December 4, 1984

COUNTY COURTS BUILDING
TOWSON, MARYLAND 21204
(301) 494-2500

Honorable Robert C. Murphy
Chief Judge
Court of Appeals
Court of Appeals Building
361 Rowe Boulevard
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: Statistical Analysis
for Fiscal 1986

Dear Judge Murphy:

I have read with interest the "Statistical Needs Analysis for New Judgeships in the Circuit Courts - 1985 Session (Fiscal 1986)" forwarded by James H. Norris, Jr., State Court Administrator.

With respect to the Third Judicial Circuit, the author concludes that there appears to be a sufficient number of judges to support the judicial workload as forecast through 1986. The thinking is based in part on the fact that the 1984 General Assembly approved for Baltimore County an additional judgeship.

I invite your attention to the fact that although the Act providing the additional judgeship for Baltimore County became effective July 1st, the position has not been filed to date because, I am told, of the lack of needed funding. We have been and are in dire need of this additional judicial help.

As to the future, the local situation requires me to take issue with the predictions of the AOC as it did not have information we have received concerning so-called "asbestos" cases. I am told that it is reasonable to expect some two thousand cases to be filed in Baltimore County and that there is

great probability that additional filings growing out of other hazardous wastes can be expected. I admit with candor that I had anticipated more than the 128 or so such cases which have been filed to date. I have been informed, however, not to take comfort in this number; that the flood tide will not long be delayed.

You will be interested to know that because of an emergency, one asbestos case was given priority status on our trial docket. The pre-trial motions raised in that case consumed seven judicial days. As a result of a conference with the undersigned which lasted two days, the case was settled, thus eliminating a six week trial. The time element involved in the trial of such cases becomes evident. These facts indicate that any thinking to the effect that there is a "leveling off" in the workload of this court is questionable.

I have no intention to equivocate, but the totality of circumstances precludes my being able to predict the future with any degree of accuracy. It is quite evident, however, and it must be accepted as a fact of life, that Baltimore and Harford Counties are growing communities with expanding business activities and supporting populations. Consequently, while I am not now requesting an additional judgeship for the Third Judicial Circuit, I would be remiss if I did not indicate to you at this time that an increase in our judicial personnel may become essential.

I am sure you share my concern, that is, when an additional judge becomes essential, that it takes such a long time to obtain Legislative approval, advertising, appointment and funding.

Very truly yours,



Frank E. Cicone

FEC:ems

cc: James H. Norris, Jr., Esquire
State Court Administrator



FRED C. WRIGHT III
ASSOCIATE JUDGE
FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
OF MARYLAND

COURT HOUSE
HAGERSTOWN, MD. 21740
TELEPHONE (301) 791-3111


November 7, 1984

Mr. James H. Morris, Jr.
Administrative Office of the Court
Courts of Appeal Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Mr. Morris:

As Administrative Judge for the Fourth Judicial Circuit, which includes Garrett, Allegany and Washington Counties, I concur in the conclusion by the A.O.C. that there is no need for any additional judgeships in this circuit for the foreseeable future.

Very truly yours,


Fred C. Wright, III
Judge

FCW/jct

STATE OF MARYLAND
FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY COURTHOUSE
ANNAPOLIS
21401

RAYMOND G. THIEME, JR.
CIRCUIT ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE

November 15, 1984

TELEPHONE (301) 224-1290

Honorable Robert C. Murphy
Chief Judge
Court of Appeals of Maryland
Courts of Appeal Building
Rowe Boulevard
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: Statistical Needs Analysis for
New Judgeships in Circuit Courts -
1985 Session (Fiscal 1986)

Dear Bob:

I support the recommendation contained in the above for an additional judgeship for Carroll County. I strenuously urge that this be pressed in the upcoming session.

There is no need for additional judgeships in either Howard or Anne Arundel Counties.

Sincerely,



Raymond G. Thieme, Jr.

RGT:pjr

cc: Honorable Guy J. Cicone
Honorable Bruce C. Williams
Honorable Donald J. Gilmore

SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
OF MARYLAND
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND

AVID L. CAHOON
ASSOCIATE JUDGE

(301) 251-7216

December 3, 1984

Robert C. Murphy
Chief Judge
Court of Appeals of Maryland
Courts of Appeal Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Chief Judge Murphy:

With the concurrence of the members of the Montgomery Circuit Bench, I urge you to certify to the General Assembly the need for an additional circuit judge for that County. This request is not made lightly but only after careful evaluation of the Court's capacity to cope with a persistent large increase in the demands for its services.

Montgomery County received certification and General Assembly approval for its twelfth judge based upon an Administrative Office of the Courts needs analysis made in 1980. In this year (1984) the AOC needs analysis shows a need as great or greater than in 1980 in six of seven of the variables measuring predictive and performance factors. The difference between then and now is the substantial increase in case filings per judge.

Set out hereafter is a table of comparison which presents these points. (Under the AOC analysis a lower rank number indicates a greater need)

	<u>(11 Judges)</u>	<u>(12 Judges)</u>	
	<u>FY-1980</u>	<u>FY-1984</u>	<u>Difference</u>
<u>Variables</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Rank</u>
Attorney per Judge	1	1	0
Pending Cases per Judge	2	2	0
Population per Judge	5	5	0
Days-Filing to Disposition			
- Equity	2	4	+2
- Law	4	3	-1
- Criminal	9	7	-2
Filings per Judge	17	8	-9

The magnitude of this greater need is revealed in the collective ranking of the AOC summaries of predictive and performance factors.

Summary of Factors

Predictive	8	4	-4
Performance	2	3	+1

As noted earlier there has been a substantial increase in filings. The text of the AOC analysis makes reference to a significant growth. This has been dramatic and persistent in the four year period. The 1984 filings of 15,891 are 60% greater than the filings in 1980 of 9,965. The 1984 filings nearly equaled those predicted by AOC for 1985 in its analysis one year earlier. There are undoubtedly manifold reasons for this growth including significant expansion of drunk driving and child support enforcement programs. In those areas the judicial element of this Court is the only agency whose resources have not been expanded to meet these thrusts.

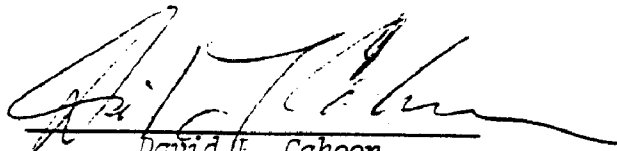
In determining need it is appropriate to consider how well we have utilized existing resources. As you are aware, we have for several years been implementing innovative caseload management and dispute resolution systems. These have proven effective and efficient. This has been accompanied by a sustained and solid commitment of the bench.

A measure of this effort can be found in some of the statistics produced by ACC. Since the twelfth judge was authorized the dispositions per judge have risen 77% from 670 in FY81 to 1186 in FY-84; the number of hearings conducted per judge has risen 124% from 618 in FY-81 to 1388 in FY-84; the number of law jury trials has more than doubled from 119 in FY81 to 240 in FY-84; and those in criminal cases nearly tripled from 77 to 213. Despite this work effort we have only been able to maintain some stability in the filing to disposition times. I believe we have kept faith with your prior decision and that of the General Assembly, however we can not maintain the progress and will fall behind without the supplement of an additional judge.

Physical facilities are available for the additional judge. I am confident that the County Government, its legislative delegation, and the local bar will support this request.

Your continued support for the demonstrated needs of the Montgomery Circuit Court will be sincerely appreciated by all of us who are involved in its endeavors.

Very truly yours,


David L. Cahoon
Circuit Administrative Judge

Seventh Judicial Circuit of Maryland

COURT HOUSE

UPPER MARLBORO, MARYLAND 20772

ERNEST A. LOVELESS, JR.
CHIEF JUDGE
CIRCUIT ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE

301 952-4093

December 7, 1984

Mr. James H. Norris, Jr.
State Court Administrator
Courts of Appeal Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Jim:

Reference is made to your memorandum dated October 25, 1984 and the "Statistical Needs Analysis for New Judgeships in the Circuit Courts - 1985 Session (Fiscal 1986)".

After reviewing the Statistical Analysis attachment to the above mentioned memorandum showing a need for 5.8 judges, and after consultation with other judicial members of the Circuit, we concur in principle that the need for additional judges exists in the Seventh Circuit. However, our survey of the Seventh Judicial Circuit shows the following:

In Calvert County, Judge Bowen feels there is no need for an additional judge at this time in FY-86.

In St. Mary's County, Judge Mattingly feels there is no need for an additional judge at this time in FY-86. However, he does feel that assistance from other judges, at least four or five days a month is appropriate.

In Charles County, Judge Bowling agrees that there is a need for an additional judge which you have already identified in your analysis this year as well as the past year. Judge Bowling reports that space is available and the County Government and Bar Association are receptive to the appointment of an additional judge.

We note that your report recognizes that Charles County is the highest in the State in population per judge (65,400). However, our local Court Administrator feels that the population projections for Charles County are open to argument because not enough emphasis has been placed upon the growth projections of St. Charles City. This city should be compared to the city of Columbia, Maryland in that Federal financing and development have created it and sustain it. We note that upon completion of this city, the population will be 81,000. This, coupled with the population growth in other areas of Charles County, will only exacerbate the need for additional judges. In addition, the increased projections of case filings for Charles County must be considered.

Mr. James H. Norris, Jr.
State Court Administrator
Courts of Appeal Building
December 7, 1984
Page No. 2

Presently, I believe that the appointment of one additional judge to Charles County will take care of their immediate need which you have already identified and which we have elaborated on. In addition, this judgeship should be able to assist St. Mary's County and others on a temporary basis.

In Prince George's County, Judge McCullough believes there is a definite need for one additional judge. The staggering workload that presently exists in Prince George's County Circuit Court is simply because the Judges have more work (cases) than they can properly handle. Our pending caseload increase is horrendous, and as we look at the analysis furnished by you on page 14 it says, "Prince George's is the highest in the State in the number of filings per judge (2,118) and the number of dispositions per judge (2,195)". However, the lapse time for dispositions of law and equity is indicative of our need for an additional judge.

Though we note that population is a factor in the statistical computation, we also see that during the past ten years population has increased only slightly in Prince George's County. Thus, our current marked caseload growth is particularly significant because the filing increases in the criminal, law and equity categories do not require the support of a population increase.

However, as we look at the Maryland Park and Planning Commission population estimates and forecasts, we can only look forward to an increase in population. Noting the average filing growth and given the steady increases of total caseload over the last decade while population was not increasing, and taking into account the aforementioned population estimates and forecasts, it is difficult to foresee any direction but "up" for future caseload growth.

Prince George's County is presently the second most populous in the State and has a large Bar and mix of business, industry, apartment and other residential uses. It has a large number of municipalities, many with their own police forces, in addition to the County Police Department. In addition, the statistical need in the County exceeds any other county in the State in predictive factors (volume) as identified by the Administrative Office of the Courts in their analysis on Table 7.

Another very important factor concerning the need for an additional judgeship is the delay involved between the identification of the need and the appointment of a new judge. By the time a new judge is appointed in one year, the backlog of cases has risen dramatically therefore requiring additional judicial manpower the following year.

Mr. James H. Norris, Jr.
State Court Administrator
Courts of Appeal Building
December 7, 1984
Page No. 3

We should not overlook the factor that one case is not equivalent to another and these differences are not reflected in our court statistics. Differences in terms of court time, preparation by the Judge, hearings by the judge in his Chambers, motions, etc., all consume varying amount of court time depending on the type of cases before the Court. In addition, the most glaring drawback to relying on workload figures is that this is usually a "gross" statistic. That is, it does not differentiate between types of cases, but rather lumps together all types. Obviously a murder case will consume more judicial time than an uncontested civil suit - yet, a simple workload system gives equal weight to both. Regardless of our efforts in pre-trial areas to expedite cases, we find that cases are becoming more complex with additional filings of motions and other pleadings.

A closer scrutiny of problems concerning delay shows that Prince George's County is facing the following:

- a. Increased Filings
- b. Increased Exceptions time
- c. Increased Law disposition time
- d. Increased Equity disposition time
- e. Time involved in death penalty cases
- f. Time involved in disciplinary hearings
- g. Time involved in En Banc Reviews

Though we have not formally talked to the Executive and Legislative Branches of Government in Prince George's County concerning this judgeship need, we have no reason to believe that they would not support us.

The Bar Association has been notified that we are asking for one additional judge for Prince George's County and is supportive of our efforts.

Our Prince George's County Court House renovation of several years ago gave us sufficient courtrooms to utilize the new judge. However, in all candor, Judicial Chambers will be a temporary problem but not of such a magnitude to impede judicial appointment as space has been identified and money is presently being sought to begin renovation prior to appointment.

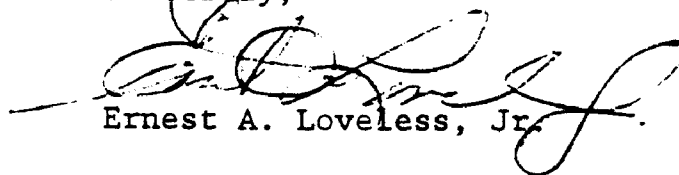
Mr. James H. Norris
State Court Administrator
Courts of Appeal Building
December 7, 1984
Page No. 4

Finally, given the totality of our needs within the Seventh Judicial Circuit, we formally request one additional Judge for Charles County and one additional Judge for Prince George's County.

Should you have any questions regarding this, I would be pleased to hear from you.

On a more personal note, I wish you and your staff a happy holiday season.

Sincerely,



Ernest A. Loveless, Jr.

Attachment

cc: Judge Bowen
Judge McCullough
Judge Mattingly
Judge Bowling
Robert W. McCarthy, Jr.

Circuit Court
for
Baltimore City

III NORTH CALVERT STREET
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21202

JOSEPH H. H. KAPLAN
ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE

November 20, 1984

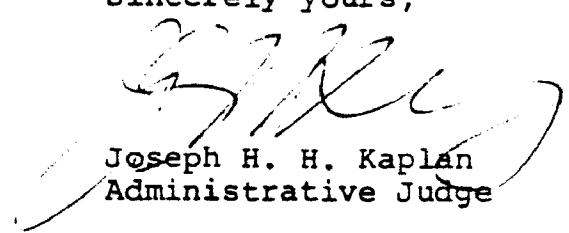
Honorable Robert C. Murphy
Chief Judge
Court of Appeals of Maryland
County Courts Building
401 Bosley Avenue
Towson, Maryland 21204

Dear Chief Judge Murphy:

I have reviewed the Statistical Analysis of the Need for Additional Judgeships in the Circuit Courts - 1985 Session (Fiscal 1986) and have observed that no new judgeships are recommended for the Circuit Court for Baltimore City and that the Legislature will not be asked in the 1985 Session to provide any additional judgeships for this Circuit Court. I have no complaint with that conclusion.

My position is founded on several bases. The first is that prayers for jury trials in criminal cases originally instituted in the District Court will not markedly increase above the already heavy misdemeanor caseload; the second, to assist in the handling of the misdemeanor docket, is that a District Court Judge will continue to be assigned on a regular basis to sit on this Bench for forty weeks of next year; and the third is that there will be assigned to this Court an adequate number of visiting and retired Judges to temporarily fill any vacancies that arise in our judicial staffing.

Sincerely yours,



Joseph H. H. Kaplan
Administrative Judge

JHHK:sp

cc: Honorable Robert F. Sweeney
James H. Norris, Jr., Esq.
Mr. Robert W. McKeever
Mr. Peter J. Lally

BILL ORDER

(1b) AN ACT concerning

Circuit Court Judges

for the purpose of increasing the number of circuit court judges in Montgomery and Prince George's Counties.

Circle
Only One:

- (rr) By repealing and re-enacting, with amendments,
or
(an) By adding to
or
(r) By repealing

Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings

Section 1-503

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1984 Replacement Volume and 1984 Supplement)

Circle as appropriate

- (ed) - July 1 effective date
(eed) - emergency effective date
(aed) - abnormal effective date: _____

(sev) - severability clause

(sii) - salary increase not to
affect incumbent

Office _____

Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings

1-503

(a) In each county in the first seven judicial circuits there shall be the number of resident judges of the circuit court set forth below, including the judge or judges provided for by the Constitution:

(1)	Allegany.....	2
(2)	Anne Arundel.....	9
(3)	Baltimore County.....	13
(4)	Calvert.....	1
(5)	Caroline.....	1
(6)	Carroll.....	2
(7)	Charles.....	2
(8)	Cecil.....	2
(9)	Dorchester.....	1
(10)	Frederick.....	3
(11)	Garrett.....	1
(12)	Harford.....	4
(13)	Howard.....	4
(14)	Kent.....	1
(15)	Montgomery.....	[12] 13
(16)	Prince George's.....	[15] 16
(17)	Queen Anne's.....	1
(18)	St. Mary's.....	1
(19)	Somerset.....	1
(20)	Talbot.....	1
(21)	Washington.....	3
(22)	Wicomico.....	2
(23)	Worcester.....	2

(b) In Baltimore City there shall be 23 resident judges of the Circuit Court for Baltimore City.